

**To:** Carleton, Ron[Carleton.Ron@epa.gov]  
**From:** Perla, Donna  
**Sent:** Wed 4/20/2016 4:08:09 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Media Advisory: TODAY: Rep. Newhouse, Chairman Conaway Host Media Conference Call on EPA Anti-Farmer Campaign in WA

FYI

I don't know if you know about this

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Sanders, Larry Dale" <larry.sanders@okstate.edu>  
**Date:** April 20, 2016 at 11:27:07 AM EDT  
**To:** George Boggs <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy Perla, Donna" <Perla.Donna@epa.gov>, "steve.balling@delmonte.com" <steve.balling@delmonte.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Media Advisory: TODAY: Rep. Newhouse, Chairman Conaway Host Media Conference Call on EPA Anti-Farmer Campaign in WA

And, here's the wind-up! Will they knock it out of the park?

Larry D. Sanders

Professor & Economist

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Stillwater, OK 74078

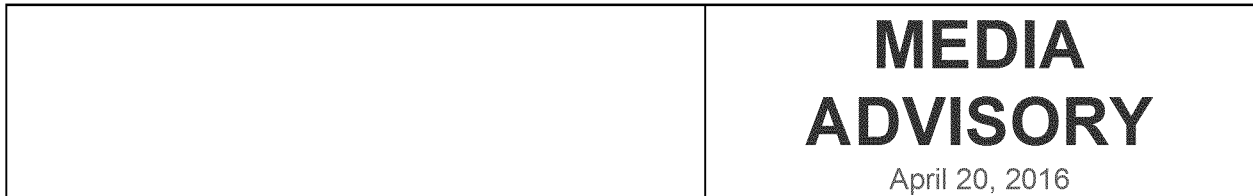
ph: 405.744.9834

email: [larry.sanders@okstate.edu](mailto:larry.sanders@okstate.edu)

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**From:** House Committee on Agriculture [<mailto:agrepUBLICanpress@mail.house.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2016 10:08 AM  
**To:** [lsander@okstate.edu](mailto:lsander@okstate.edu)

**Subject:** Media Advisory: TODAY: Rep. Newhouse, Chairman Conaway Host Media Conference  
Call on EPA Anti-Farmer Campaign in WA



## TODAY: Rep. Newhouse, Chairman Conaway Host Media Conference Call on EPA Anti-Farmer Campaign in WA

**Today, April 20, from 4:30 - 4:50 PM EST**, Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA) and House Agriculture Committee Chairman K. Michael Conaway (R-TX) invite press to join a phone press conference to discuss their response to the Environmental Protection Agency Region 10's funding of the [whatsupstream.com](http://whatsupstream.com) website and its advocacy campaign in Washington State for greater regulation of farmers and ranchers.

**To participate in the call, please RSVP to [Will.Boyington@mail.house.gov](mailto:Will.Boyington@mail.house.gov) to receive the participant passcode. To join the conference call, dial:** Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy **and then enter the required passcode.**

**WHAT:** Press call with Rep. Dan Newhouse, House Agriculture Committee Chairman K. Michael Conaway

**DATE:** Wednesday, April 20, 2016

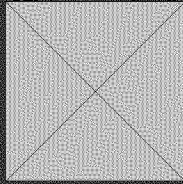
**TIME:** 4:30 - 4:50 PM EST

**Background:**

Earlier this month, the [EPA admitted in news reports that it should not have funded a campaign](#) in Washington State known as [whatsupstream.com](http://whatsupstream.com), due to that campaign's brazen lobbying of state legislators in contravention of federal law. The [whatsupstream.com](http://whatsupstream.com) campaign, which was wholly funded by the EPA, used grant awards to fund a website, radio ads, and billboards depicting dead fish and polluted water, urging individuals to contact their state legislators and, "hold the agricultural industry to the same level of responsibility as other industries." A large, red button on the website labeled, "Take action! We've made it simple," allowed visitors to easily send an email to their state legislators advocating for 100-foot stream buffer zones and other policies. An [EPA Inspector General's report from 2014](#) had warned that the EPA region responsible for awarding the grant had insufficient protections in place to ensure awardees were not using funds for advocacy, propaganda, and/or lobbying efforts.

According to a December, 2015 report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), the [EPA violated federal lobbying and advocacy laws](#) by funding social media campaigns supporting EPA's Waters of the United States (WOTUS) Rule.

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